

HIGHLIGHTS

March 2002 **CYS / Project Together Newsletter** Vol. XVII, No. III

For Your Information...

Mark your calendars! The annual CYS-Project Together Volunteer Recognition dinner, set for Wednesday, April 24, will be held at a new venue this year. The UCI University Club, housed on the beautiful Irvine campus, will be the site for this year's event. An exciting evening is planned, so please be sure to save the date. Further information will be in the mail soon...



The 2002 Annual Day Use Passes for Orange County beaches and parks are available and can be obtained by contacting your volunteer coordinator. The annual passes are offered to mentors who regularly visit county beaches or parks on outings with their child or teen. The Day Use Pass provides free entry to Aliso Beach, Capistrano Beach and Salt Creek Beach, in addition to numerous regional and wilderness parks. Please visit www.ocparks.com for a detailed listing of parks requiring entry fees...

Interested in learning more about mentoring or looking for new ideas or skills? Check out the online training for mentors available through the National Mentoring Partnership website at www.mentoring.org/training/TMT/index.adp.

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Volunteers Are Special!

Going an Extra Mile for a Smile



"Anyone who gets Billie Cline as a mentor in the future will be very lucky to have her...although she may not be available for a while, because I plan to keep her!"

That emphatic statement, made by the 12-year-old girl Billie has mentored since September of last year, speaks to the dedication, generosity and caring of this veteran mentor.

According to the young teen, the two of them have never experienced a dull moment. Together they have made gingerbread houses and framed pressed flowers, gone out to lunch, enjoyed a few rounds of miniature golf and explored the Getty Museum. "When I need to get out of the house, she's always there, once a week, to cheer me up," notes the young girl.

"Billie has been an exceptional mentor," according to the girl's supervising therapist. "She is extremely kind and generous with her time...and is always willing to go the extra mile if it will make someone else happy." She added that when the young girl had surgery recently, Billie visited her in the

hospital every other day, much to the child's delight.

Although Billie's current mentoring relationship has been going strong for more than five months, she is no newcomer to CYS-Project Together. Her first mentoring experience with the program was in 1990. Within a six-year period, she was matched with five different children. However, when the boy she was mentoring was placed in a residential home in 1996 and was no longer a CYS client, Billie continued her relationship with him by becoming a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteer. She has remained close to this young man, and believes that he is a "great success story, although I may be biased."

Billie originally became a mentor to help a child experience the one-to-one child/adult relationship she so fondly remembers from her childhood. "I came from a large family and had a favorite aunt who used to take me on outings... I remember really enjoying that one-on-one experience. I wanted to be that (person) to someone else, 'cause I know how important it was to me." "Plus," she added, "I have much more fun with kids than adults."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Daniele (Grigsby) Howard	3/2
Denise Howard	3/3
Kim Shreeve	3/5
Lorrie Grumbling	3/8
Ami Redman	3/14
Viviana Paredes	3/23
Elarian Anderson	3/24
Julie Daw	3/25
Ashley Ford	3/25
Robert Baker	3/26
Trevor Persaud	3/28

MARCH 2002

Calendar of Events

The CYS-Project Together Calendar is a collection of affordable, fun, wholesome and interesting events that can be enjoyed by children, teens and adults. To submit an item for the calendar, please call (714) 796-0100.

Saturday, March 2 **Santa Ana Zoo's 50th Birthday Celebration**

Santa Ana Zoo
1801 E. Chestnut
Santa Ana
(714) 836-4000

Help celebrate the Zoo's 50th birthday with crafts, elephant express, storytelling and much more.

Time: 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Cost: Adults \$4
Children \$2

Saturdays, March 9 & 16 **Sundays, March 10 & 17** **Festival of Whales**

Dana Point Harbor
Dana Point
(949) 496-5794

Celebrate the annual migration of the California Grey Whales through a variety of free and low cost events and activities emphasizing environmental education and responsibility.

For a calendar of activities, visit www.dpfestivalofwhales.com.

Time: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Cost: Many events are free

March 10 **UCI Wind Ensemble**

Winifred Smith Hall
University of California at Irvine
(949) 824-2787

Daniel Katzen conducts.

Time: 8:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

Monday, March 11 **UCI Percussion Ensemble**

Winifred Smith Hall
University of California at Irvine
(949) 824-2787

Theresa Dimond conducts.

Time: 8:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

Sunday, March 17 **Youth Expo 2002**

Santa Ana Stadium
Corner of Flower and Civic Center Drive
Santa Ana
(714) 571-4274

Entertainment and information for youth 8-21 years of age on opportunities, activities, camps, jobs, colleges and more.

Time: 1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

Wednesday, March 20 **New Computer Music**

Winifred Smith Hall
University of California at Irvine
(949) 824-2787

UCI students will perform computerized music.

Time: 8:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

Saturday, March 23 **Peter Rabbit Egg Hunt**

Discovery Museum of Orange County
3101 W. Harvard Street
Santa Ana
(714) 850-9452

Listen to the classic tale of Peter, then search for eggs in the beautiful gardens of the Museum. Springtime crafts and games round out the afternoon. Light refreshments will be served.

Time: 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Cost: \$8

Monday-Saturday Now! **Youth Track and Field Team Registration**

Any Santa Ana Recreation Center
(714) 571-4254

Kids of all ages may sign up for A.I.M. (Athletics In Motion). Four track meets will be conducted at Santa Ana College.

Time: 3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

Monday-Saturday Now! **Girls Youth Softball Registration**

Any Santa Ana Recreation Center
(714) 571-4254

Girls, ages 5-14, may sign-up for this great American past time.

Time: 3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

There's More than One Way to Hug A Child...

The wonderful support provided by many local businesses and organizations is deeply appreciated by the staff of Children and Youth Services (CYS) and CYS-Project Together. Your generosity allows community resources to become an important asset in the

therapeutic process. Each month, we extend our thanks and give recognition to our caring donors.

Acapulco Mexican Restaurant
Long Beach

Camelot Golfland
Anaheim

Gorman Framing & Art Gallery
Costa Mesa

Mimis Café
Tustin

Pfizer Foundation
Princeton

Ruby Restaurant Group
Newport Beach

Salamon Art, Inc.
Fountain Valley

Six Flags Magic Mountain
Valencia

Statek Corp.
Orange

Mentor's Mentor

Dear Mentor's Mentor:

Recently I was matched with a 13-year-old. Since it has been a long time since I was 13, I could use some help planning outings that are fun and appropriate for her age. Although I have lived in Orange County for several years, I am sometimes at a loss for inexpensive activities that will also give us an opportunity to get to know each other better. Any suggestions?

Mentor

Dear Mentor,

The following information was provided by Billie Cline (please see cover story), a longtime CYS-Project Together mentor who says that she is "never at a loss for fun things to do." She is happy to share her outing ideas with other mentors.

Crystal Cove State Park North Laguna Beach

This is a great place to visit when you begin a match. Park on the inland side of PCH in the lot and take the tunnel under the highway to the beach. Some days they have tours of the old cottages, like the one where "Beaches" was filmed. There are tide pools where we found lots of tiny shells. We also collected wild flowers on the walk back to the car. Our plan was to press and dry the flowers and place them in frames during another outing together.

Mission San Juan Capistrano

On the second Saturday of each month, the employees dress up in costumes. Throughout the mission, there are craft displays and demonstrations of authentic Mexican cuisine being prepared.

Ocean Institute, Dana Point

The hands-on sea life tank is a major attraction. There are several fish and other aquatic life to study, and helpful personnel are available to answer questions.

Balboa Island/Balboa Peninsula

This has always been one of my favorites. There are so many things to do, so it is a good

place for more than one outing. You can park on the island, explore the shops, and take the ferry over to the peninsula to visit the fun zone. The fun zone has an arcade, and rides, like a Ferris wheel and bumper cars. While at the fun zone, look into taking a harbor cruise and learn about the famous Balboa residents of long ago...like John Wayne and Shirley Temple. A walk down the Newport Pier is also fun, and at the end is Ruby's Diner, where in the summer, you can eat on the roof and sometimes view dolphins playing in the ocean.

Discovery Science Center Santa Ana

Although this is designed primarily for younger children, teens can also have a good time on the rock climbing wall, earthquake booth and bed of nails. There is limited parking, so we park at the end of the Main Place Mall and walk over.

Miniature Golf

There are places EVERYWHERE, and it is always fun.

Santa Ana Zoo

If you don't want to go all the way to the LA Zoo, there is always the little one in Santa Ana. It is small and does not have exotic animals, but it can be a fun afternoon. They often have special events planned.

Downtown Disney

You get some of the fun of Disney without the exorbitant expense. There is a candy factory where you can watch them make candy. There is also a "build a bear" store where you can make your own stuffed animal.

Rainy Days are Good for Movies

Going to the movies does not always encourage interaction or discussion. I think it is better to rent a movie and watch it at home. Kids love to be able to pick out their own movies (with your approval). Also, how about picking up some Jiffy Pop popcorn? It is great fun! Most kids today have never seen corn pop on the stove.

Annual Festivals

Throughout the year, there are many festivals to attend. Here are three I never miss:

Garden Grove Strawberry Festival

This is held every year during the Memorial Day weekend. The parade is on Saturday morning and runs from 9th and Chapman to Euclid.

City of Orange International Street Faire

Held during the Labor Day weekend at the traffic circle in Old Town Orange, this annual event features foods and entertainment from countries throughout the world.

Scottish Games

Orange County Fairgrounds

Scottish festivities and games, including dance competitions, games of strength, and bagpipe music, are held on Saturday and Sunday during the Memorial Day weekend.

(Editor's Note: Further information on many of the activities described above can be found on the web or by checking the calendar sections of the local newspapers.)

FROM THE REGIONS

WELCOME NEW MENTORS

North	Zachary Blount Emily Lazalde
East	Mara McClain Rosa Diaz
South/ Costa Mesa	Gretchen Haugen Wendy Flanigan Amber Schubert Dolores Guintu
South/ Laguna	Julie Daw
Aspen/Tustin	Jasmine Khoo Holly Gardner Pamela Lynch

THANKS TO THOSE WHO'VE MOVED ON

South/ Costa Mesa	Donna Goodman Ann Hanson
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The Back Page



Exploring the web can be a great activity for mentors with teens. The Orange County Public Library (OCPL) website, www.ocpl.org, features several "cool" sites that may help a teen with homework, and provide other useful information teens might enjoy. Many of the 27 OCPL branches have computers with internet access, and an OCPL card is all that is needed to access this and other library resources. For further information, visit the website or call the OCPL headquarters at (714) 566-3000.

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Published by:

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Children and Youth Services/*Project Together*

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The Health Care Agency/Behavioral Health Services/Children and Youth Services provides mental health treatment for emotionally and behaviorally disturbed youth and their families throughout Orange County. CYS-Project Together is a volunteer mentor program for CYS children and teens. The program also offers supportive resources to clients and families to assist them in achieving treatment goals.



County of Orange Health Care Agency
Behavioral Health Services/Children & Youth Services

CYS-Project Together *Highlights*

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Address Correction Requested

